

PORTSMOUTH INQUIRY.

GEORGE W. NELSON, EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.
FRIDAY EVENING, DEC. 12, 1854.

DEMOCRATIC CONVENTION.

In pursuance to the call of the State Central Committee, the Democracy of Sevier County are requested to meet at their respective places of voting, on Saturday the 23d of December, and choose delegates to attend a county Convention, to be held at the court house in the city of Portsmouth, on the 30th of December, at 11 o'clock A. M. The county Convention will elect three delegates to a State Convention, to be held on the 8th of January 1855, at Columbus, to nominate Democratic candidates for Governor, and other State officers.

Each township will be entitled to one vote for every fifty Democratic votes cast for Governor in 1853, and one vote for every fraction over twenty-five. Every township will be entitled to one vote at least. It is hoped that every township will be represented.

FRANCIS CLEVELAND, Chairman.
December 15th, 1854.

The Democracy of Wayne township will meet on the day above designated at the Neptune Fire Engine House, for the purpose of appointing delegates to attend the county Convention.

F. CLEVELAND, Ch'm. Con. Com.

The Democracy of Wayne township will meet at the Neptune Fire engine house to-morrow, Saturday evening at early candle lighting. Don't forget the time, and above all, don't forget to be on hand one and all.

Primary Meeting.

It is to be hoped the Democracy of the several townships will attend the Primary Meetings appointed by the Central Committee, for the purpose of appointing delegates to the county convention. Let there be a full representation and let good and true men be appointed.

We hope to see as many of the Democrats as can possibly leave their business, come in on the 30th inst. Whether delegates are appointed or not, let each and every township in the county be fully represented. Don't be backward, friends. There is a big fight ahead, and you must buckle on your armour and face the foe.

Congress is progressing slowly with its work. As yet nothing of very great importance has been transacted. There is little doubt however, that before the end of the fourth week of the session, the duty on coal will be repealed, so that this important article will be admitted free into our ports. The public men of all parties in Washington are in favor of such a measure. The people generally favor most any scheme looking to a reduction of the price of fuel.

Godey's Lady's Book.

The January number of this popular magazine has been received—and an excellent number it is. It contains sixty contributions, and sixty-eight engravings, ten of them being full page plates. The first—John Proclaiming the Messiah—is a splendid line engraving. This number contains more than the usual quantity of fashion plates, and specimens of needle work, &c. The contributions are of a high order, some of them being from the pens of our most gifted writers.

Either send your order to the proprietor, or call upon us, and we will act as agent for you. Our commendation of the work will be of no use to our readers, unless they avail themselves of the privilege of possessing it also.

TERMS—One copy, one year, \$3; two copies, one year, \$5; five copies, one year, and an extra copy to the person sending the club, \$10.

The West Union Mail Route.

The Tribune complains very bitterly of the manner in which things are conducted along this route. Some graceless scamp by the name of De Mint, has got the contract for carrying the mail between this point and West Union, and it appears that he is in the habit of not only getting drunk, but swindling the citizens along the route out of small amounts. He professes to be an agent for the different papers published in this city and West Union, and has succeeded, in many instances in inducing people to subscribe and pay him the amount of the advance price, and then appropriating the papers belonging to regular subscribers to the fulfilling of his own engagements, and that too, after said subscribers have paid him for carrying them.

When we first came into this office he was in the habit of calling on us and getting some twelve or fourteen extra "Inquirers," saying he would procure subscribers to it, &c. It was not long however before we became convinced that De Mint was playing a "strong game" on us, and we shut down on him, after which time our regular subscribers could never procure a paper from him, although they were regularly entrusted to his care, for delivery.

It seems he has been playing the same game on our friends of the Tribune. The sooner the citizens along the route have this "State bird" sent back to his old cage, the better it will be for all concerned.

It is reported that the government of Honduras has offered to sell Tiger Island to the United States for \$20,000. If we accept it, we shall have a fight with the government of San Salvador to quiet the title, as that state claims the island as a part of its domain.

Capital.

"A know-nothing lodge of colored persons was organized in Elmira, New York, last week, being the eighth of that complexion in the State."

The above, from the Baltimore Sun of Saturday, is the latest know-nothing news. The idea is capital! What earthly right have these outside barbarians, Englishmen, Frenchmen, Irishmen, and Scotchmen, to come over here and get fat on the land which of right belongs to the native-American blacks? Heavens! what an outrage has been perpetrated these 75 or 80 years on the innocent wearers of wool! "It must make their sensitive blood boil to think how they have been abused and swindled out of their fair inheritance—the United States of North America—by these 'damned foreigners.'" Clear the track, then, for the free darkies to assert their "inalienable rights" by the side of their white brethren. For nearly 80 years there has been no importation from Africa, and by this time the native blood must be pretty pure. Down, then, with paddies, and up with picanninies.

Of course, too, they must have a representative in the National Council, and side by side with some honorable, ex-honorable or dis-honorable, from Virginia or South Carolina will sit a thick-lipped, curly-pated "brother American," greasy and odoriferous.

Would it not be well to have a colored candidate for the presidency? The abolitionists would all go for him through instinct, and "the brethren" would be compelled by their oaths to "go in" or resign. Rejoice, then, ye nations, the millennium is at hand—black stock is rising, and the land shall be possessed by its legitimate native owners, the distinguished ebony gentlemen from Africa. The bad of know-nothingism has burst, and here's the flower.

Breadstuffs.

The last advices from Europe were not favorable to an advance in breadstuffs in our market. Prices had declined in the English market; and the prospect was that there will be no export demand from England upon this country. Were it not for the expectation of holders that they are to realize extravagant prices by waiting a little longer, prices would further decline in our markets. There is still an impression prevailing here that our supply of breadstuffs is short of our home necessities, while the truth is, there is abundant food in the country for all. This will become evident by and by, and farmers and speculators who are holding back grain and flour from market in the hope of selling dearer than they could now, may find their calculations greatly at fault.

Good seldom comes of a grasping, avaricious desire to enhance the price of food. It generally happens—may we not say Providence orders it—that when farmers and speculators make it their aim to wring the utmost penny from the poor consumers, a fruitful season follows the adverse one, and the greedy speculators are caught in their own devices. We have seen it illustrated year after year, both at home and abroad. In years when speculators seemed to be amassing wealth out of the people's necessities, we have seen reverses and bankruptcies follow like a judgment upon the heartless pursuers of riches. The abundant harvest in Europe this season, followed the bad harvest of last year, and while the people rejoice at this blessing, we hear the crash of great commercial firms and the wail of the money worshippers. Strange that men will not learn the lesson which these occurrences so plainly indicate.

What's Coming.

The Guernsey Times, a fusion Whig paper, is out in favor of annual sessions of the legislature; as are others of the same political stripe throughout the State. This and the repeal of the small note law are to be the ingredients in the hash which fusionism designs to dish up for the entertainment of the people of Ohio. Not long ago a home currency composed of Ohio Bank notes, and death to the squandering locofocos for holding two sessions in as many years, was the cry of those who form the mass of the fusionists. The democracy have measurable banished foreign bank notes and secured the people the "home currency," and have also got biennial sessions in to working order. Now the cry is foreign currency and annual sessions. Whiggery is a consistent bird, and it promises to lead fusionism in an equally devious way.

"DEVIL TO PAY WITH THE BANK TELLERS!"—Such is the significant heading to a telegraphic despatch from New York, Dec. 7th. The despatch is these words: "H. W. Sackett, receiving teller in the Merchants' Bank of this city is defaulter to \$25,000. He admits the embezzlement and says he was sorry that it was not twice as much. Detained for examination. In W. B. McQuicker's possession, first teller of the Ocean bank, was found \$25,000.—Officers arrested him crossing Jersey ferry. They had been in search of him four weeks."

McGeech formerly teller in the Ocean Bank who embezzled \$30,000 in October last, was arraigned this morning and committed."

At Pomeroy, O., there are at least a quarter of a million of dollars in the shape of coal, salt, iron, &c., waiting a passage to market.

DEMOCRATIC TRUTH IS MIGHTY, AND WILL PREVAIL.—A veteran Democrat, who dates his letter at Wheelersburgh, in this county, in remitting to the Ohio Statesman and Democrat, his annual subscription, thus writes:—

These are strange political times. Federalism seems to have been so often defeated that she has lost all reliance upon her principles, and has now assumed the evasive form, and is seeking to gain power by the aid of bigotry, intolerance and secret oaths. Among all the bad means she has ever used to obtain power, these are perhaps the worst, as they embody the most anti-American tendencies. But had they been, they must be boldly met by every liberal minded man; and every free press which regards the rights of conscience, and particularly the Democratic, should spare no pains to ferret out, and expose to merited contempt, the prime movers of this unholy crusade against the rights of conscience. No pretended sanctity should serve as a shield for any. When these secret societies have been fully exposed and their designs understood, there cannot be a doubt but that enough liberal minded men will unite to put them down for ever—although many of those men may at the present time belong to different political organizations.

I would say to young Democrats, never despond, nor doubt the principles of Democracy being equal to any emergency. I am older than the Constitution of my country, and have seen many dark times dispelled by the principles of Democracy. So now, when I am old, I have the fullest confidence in the integrity and durability of the Union and of Democratic principles.

Yours, respectfully,

One of the great burthens, which the people of Great Britain bear like a millstone about their necks, is their national debt, now upwards of £300,000,000 or four thousand million dollars. The interest upon this debt will average three percent; making £24,000,000 or one hundred and twenty million dollars annually, which divided equally among the thirty million souls of Great Britain, would be a tax of four dollars for every man, woman and child. The annual interest of this debt is more than double the entire expenses of our government and when there is added to this, the current expenses of the British government for the support of its armies, and navies, and the hordes of pensioners, civil, religious and military, the sum swells into a vastness almost beyond belief. To meet all this, and preserve that empire, whose colonies are five-sixths of its dominion, England has been obliged to barter herself against the world, taxing everything that came in contact with her. Who can wonder that a people grow restive under such a load, mostly accumulated by wicked wars, or that a nation standing on such a basis totters toward its fall?

Wheeling Bridge.

An interesting discussion is going on in the U. S. Supreme Court, relative to the Wheeling Bridge. Our readers will recollect that this Court have decided that the State of Virginia had no right to erect or authorize the erection of such a bridge. To obviate the difficulty, an act of Congress was procured, making the Wheeling Bridge a post route. This, it was confidently believed, would settle the dispute, but the present action now pending before the Supreme Court, puts in issue the constitutionality of the act of Congress, and, for the first time in the history of our Government, does that clause of the Constitution, giving Congress the power to establish post offices and post routes, come up for judicial consideration. Mr. Stanton, of Pittsburg, addressed the Court in behalf of Pennsylvania, and was followed by Reverdy Johnson in behalf of Wheeling.

DOWN ON THE ABOLITIONISTS.—The Baltimore Patriot, a Federal-Whig-Know Nothing paper says:—

"Abolitionism has an inveterate enemy in the American party. Not that it expresses any opinion upon Slavery, but that it will not permit any factious agitation to endanger the perpetuity of the Union. The American party is an union of the North and South upon other great and important questions, and whilst the object is the general good of the country, they will extinguish the sectional animosities that have so long kept them estranged."

In Ohio a portion of the Abolitionists are disposed to tick the hand that smites them. What does the Columbian say? Better come out of the den, brother RICE. You're no business there.

"The Orange Bank of Poseyville" is the flimsy and poetical name of a lot of bank rags which are afloat under the Indiana free-bank system. The paper is in circulation, certain; yet, as the Evansville Enquirer says, there is neither sign; counter, bank building, cashier or any other feature of a bank in the town. It is all in the hands of the outsiders. A blessed institution!

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.—The press of all political parties speak in the highest terms of eulogium of the President's Message, and bear their testimony to its merits as a State paper. We cannot recollect of a message in a number of years that has been received with more general approbation by the press of all parties, friends as well as opponents of the Administration.

Col. Steptoe, the newly appointed Governor of Utah, has his command already in the Mormon country. He is a firm and intrepid soldier, and particularly distinguished himself at Chelepuetec and Cerro Gordo. Ex-Governor Young will find "a hard road to travel" with Steptoe.

Creditor and Debtor.

The present scarcity of money—the absence of all market for the great and leading product of our soil, and the consequent depreciation of property generally, should admonish the Creditor to deal mildly and leniently with his debtor. There is many a man among us, with thousands of means in his hands, who is, notwithstanding, wholly unable to raise money to meet his debts. What is the obvious duty of a Creditor in such a case? His debt is perfectly secure—but the money is not to be had. Shall he pounce upon his victim, like the Eagle upon his prey—saddle him with costs—bring ruin and distress upon his family—give license to the ministers of the law to invade the sanctuary of domestic peace and happiness, and by the sacrifice of the little elegancies and comforts of life, which of themselves are worth but little, but from the force of association, are highly prized by their owners, convert the house of joy and pleasantness, to a house of grief and sorrow—blast his credit, when most he needs it, and thereby place him beyond even the hope of doing what he most desires—paying his honest debts? We repeat again, shall the creditor do this? which clearly he has a right to do; or would it not be better for him to extend to the honest but unfortunate Debtor, the hand of kindness. A little indulgence is sometimes of great benefit to a man in straitened circumstances. In nine cases out of ten, the creditor can grant this, without any inconvenience to himself. Let then, a spirit of forbearance—a spirit of "doing as they would be done by"—govern the conduct of the Creditor in his dealings with the Debtor, and by so doing, a vast amount of misery and suffering will be averted from the community; and many a face now encircled with the workings of care and anxiety, will be brightened with pleasing hopes and anticipations of the future. And to any except it be a very Shylock, thirsting for his pound of flesh, this will be infinitely more gratifying than the satisfaction of a debt by the sacrifice of ten times its amount in property. These were our reflections upon reading the following sensible article on this subject, in the Railroad Record:

"In a time like the present, it is not the want of money, but the abundance of debt, which makes the difficulty; and the solution of the difficulty consists simply in the settlement of these debts, either by payment, or bankruptcy. Either course requires time, and the creditors, (possibly themselves debtors also,) are impatient, and unwilling to wait, because they themselves are pressed. The consequence is, that A presses B, B presses C, C presses D, and D in turn presses A; if A determines to force B by law to pay, attach his property by judgment, and harass him by executions, the result is, that B does the same, and the whole series of individuals are pursuing one another with Sheriff's writs; and thus property is reduced in value, individual estates sacrificed, and the whole business of society thrown into inextinguishable confusion. The history of some of the judgments in our Courts of Law would be found to run through twenty years, involving remote parties, who had no interest in them; sacrificing property, at rates, alike ruinous to creditor and debtor; and doing nothing but evil continually. Now what we would say is this:—avoid the law while you possibly can.—Left to their calm judgment, nine business men out of ten will say the same thing. No man in the world can settle up a commercial concern, or an estate, or a Bank, as well as the proprietor, if he be an honest man. Ah! say you,—suppose he is not honest? Well, if he is not an honest man, your chance at law is worse yet.—The law is the very place for a rogue to involve you in swamps and morasses from which you will never get out. Suppose a rogue, instead of being fool enough to run away, stands his ground; what is to prevent his putting his property out of the way? Nothing. Under our laws, a creditor can attach property only when you can swear a fraud, or something to that effect, against a debtor. But how can you swear a fraud against a common debtor? You cannot on any ordinary evidence, without perjury. The rogue knows his own plans, and pursues them without giving notice, till he has converted personal property into money, and put his real estate in the hands of a friendly creditor.—The result is you pursue such property forever, and have the costs and fees of years to pay, without a cent in return.—But in nearly all cases, the debtor is morally upright. He has only been foolish or imprudent; and the creditor pursues him, as he says, to get security, or to force payment. Now, what does he get? If he commences a legal hunt, he must share with all others, and bring in all creditors, and by tearing the debtor to pieces, they destroy the very property, credit, and energy, which carefully minded, would have paid all their debts. By selling property under execution, they destroy its value; and finally turn the debtor on the world, with the conviction that they have cancelled his obligations, by the cruelty of their treatment, and that henceforth they may get their debts as they can.

Taken in any aspect, except in some very peculiar cases, the collection of debts by law, is alike injurious to creditor, debtor and society. All the lessons of wisdom and experience, concur in proving, that while it is not prudent to give or take credit, beyond the means of immediate payment, it is equally a wrong and a folly to pursue a debtor as if he were a felon, and deal with a man to whom you have yourself given credit, as if he were a villain. It is now quite settled, that it is as fatal to the creditor as the debtor; and if in some cases, God has permitted men to flourish on the ruin of others, it is only to reserve them, in their own persons or in their descendants, to a moral retribution, certain, signal, and exemplary.

Exalt wisdom and she will promote thee.

SCENE IN THE BRITISH HOSPITALS.

Scutari, Nov. 10.—Most gladly did we welcome good Miss Nightingale and her party. They will be invaluable in severe cases of illness, and in any emergency. Our surgeons last night one and all confessed that they were of the greatest use in attending to 600 wounded who come in during the afternoon.

Miss Nightingale appears eminently qualified for the noble work she has undertaken. Her labors will spare the clergy many a sad sight of men sinking for the want of proper nursing, and because food cannot be administered often enough.

Lady Stratford comes and tends frequently and has made me her almoner for jellies, pies, and soups for the officers. Miss Nightingale only takes care of the men, so Lady Stratford sends for the officers.

Our soldiers are delighted with the nurses. One poor fellow burst into tears and exclaimed to me, "I can't help crying when I see them. Only think of English women coming out here to nurse us; it is so homelike and comfortable."

The first act of the Whig Know Nothings of Franklin county was to remove the Democrats from petty offices in the Infirmary! The gentlemen proscribed were neither Catholics nor foreigners.

This shows that Know Nothingism is nothing but Federal Whiggery under a new name. We guess, by this time, the Democrats who were fooled into joining this secret organization are heartily ashamed of themselves. Come out from among them, and sin no more!

The Louisville Democrat says: ferment of acorn-water is manufactured in that vicinity, into a horrible kind of beer. Guzzlers can be made to swallow poisonous whisky, flintuous wine, and ditch-water porter, but acorn-water is certainly an imposition on their gullibility.

EVADING THE LIQUOR LAW.—A man was recently arrested in a neighboring county for getting drunk. He pleaded that he had not been guilty of violating the new law, and claimed the right of being tried by the old, on the ground that he got drunk under the old law, and hadn't been sober since. The judge was puzzled, and held the case over for advisement.

Gen. J. W. Whitfield, the first delegate to Congress from the new Territory of Kansas, commanded a regiment from Tennessee in the Mexican war, served two terms in the Tennessee legislature, and was appointed by President Pierce an agent to the Indian tribes in Nebraska and Kansas. He is a sound and reliable democrat, and in his late canvass maintained the doctrine of popular self-government with triumphant success.

The War—Interesting Incidents.

WHAT THE PRESS THINKS.

The press of England and France, and indeed public opinion in both countries, is at variance in regard to the course of events during the next four months. The Times declares the campaign at an end, and the proceedings of the allies will be purely defensive until spring; and for ten days preceding the sailing of the Pacific, its leaders would induce the world to believe that England was on the very eve of destruction. Such piteous appeals for reinforcement—such adroit cowardice—such degrading admissions of weakness and national imbecility never disgraced an English press. And all this because the British cabinet do not take its organ, and the Duke of Newcastle chooses to send his official despatches to the Morning Chronicle instead of this thunderer!

PERSONAL INCIDENTS.—A WIT OF THE BATTLE FIELD.

When Sir George Cathcart was shot and fell from his horse, at the battle of Inkermann, Col. Seymour, who was with him, instantly dismounted, and was endeavoring to raise the body, when he himself received a ball which fractured his leg. He fell to the ground beside his general, and a Russian officer and five or six men ran in and bayoneted him, and cut him to pieces as he lay helpless. Gen. Cathcart's corps was also bayoneted in five or six places. In fact the Russians did not spare a man.

An English writer, who surveyed the field of battle of the night after the engagement, by a bright moonlight saw over 5,000 dead bodies strewn about says:—

"Many badly wounded also lay there; and their low, dull moans of mortal agony struck with terrible distinctness upon the ear; or, worse still, the hoarse guttural cry and yelping struggles of those who were convulsed before they passed away.—Round the hill small groups of men with hospital stretchers were searching out for those who still survived; and others again, with lanterns, busily turning over the dead looking for the bodies of officers who were known to be killed, but who had not been found. Hear, also, were English women whose husbands had not returned, hurrying about with loud lamentations, turning the faces of our dead to the moonlight, and eagerly seeking for what they feared to find. These latter were far more to be pitied than the inanimate forms who lay slaughtered around."

DIARRHÆA AMONG ALLIES.

Diarrhæa and bowel complaints carry off a great many of the men. We come out 1,000 strong, now we scarcely number 600 men; indeed, they are so much debilitated that when the amputation of a leg or an arm takes place, which frequently does, in seven cases out of ten the patient dies from exhaustion.

THE RUSSIANS INTOXICATED.

Will you believe it? after the battle, in the knapsacks of the wounded and dead Russians were found opium and small bottles of raki—a liquor they get drunk on; and even during the action several were noticed in a state bordering on frenzy; from the opium they took or the raki they drank. Among the prisoners, nearly every third man was drunk—no wonder they fought like devils.

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NAPOLEON AND THE DEMOCRATS OF ENGLAND.—An address has been issued by the "English Democrats," which shows they are endeavoring to give "Napoleon III" a warm reception, should he visit England. The following is the concluding portion of the address:

"Men of England! Be equal to that great occasion! Rally round the committee—it is no party movement—it is open to all who are the friends of the people. Poland would stir in her chains; Hungary would thrill with joy; Italy would start with exultation, would they hear that the working men of England, spurred on by perjury and murdered—and raised the great war word of the French Republic once again, and floated in the usurper's blushing face."

"Every man's honor is in his own keeping—so is a people's—then save yours, you men of England—let it not be pawned by privileged misrule to victorious iniquity. Let it be understood, throughout the world, if Louis Napoleon comes, he is the Queen's guest, and not the People's; if the Church prays for him, that the People excommunicate him; if Aristocracy favours him, that the People spurn him; if usurers drag their patrimony to his blood-stained feet, that there is not an honest working-man—an honest tradesman—in England, who would not think it a branding infamy to touch his hand in friendship."

(Signed) Messrs. CHAPMAN, G. TAYLOR, and 54 other members of the committee.

LARGE FAILURE.—The business community in this city were surprised this morning to learn that one of the largest and most extensive dry goods houses in Pearl street, enjoying a high reputation in all sections of the United States and the Canadas, had failed and gone into chancery. The liabilities of the firm are between \$1,600,000 and 2,000,000. They are reported to owe one commission house in Milk street, \$175,000, another \$151,000, and then there are several others who are creditors for about \$50,000 each. The failures at the south and the utter impossibility of collecting the vast sums due them, in the cause assigned for this suspension. It is the largest failure of the season in Boston.—Boston Transcript.

TEXAS RAILROAD BONDS IN EUROPE.—An attempt was making in London and Paris to negotiate the bonds of the Galveston and Houston, (Texas) Railroad Company—\$700,000. This gave rise to a controversy between the agent and the London Times' money writer; the latter appealing, in support of his warning against the loan, to the course of the State of Texas on the debt of the former Republic. The first notice of the Times was owing to an intimation that Lieut. Perry, of the British army, for whom a public donation has recently been subscribed to compensate for the bad treatment he received by a court martial, was about to invest his money in this loan.—Balt. Sun.

LAND IN KANSAS.—We learn that last night Mr. Ross, a nephew of John Ross, and Judge Hicks, a full blood Cherokee, who is on the bench in the Indian country, and is a man of very decided intelligence, character and erudition, reached Washington, coming as a portion of the delegation sent here by the Cherokees, to dispose of to the government a body of 8000,000 acres of land which that nation owns in the territory of Kansas. This land lies far from the nation's other territory, and we hear, is not particularly valuable for agricultural purposes. We presume however, that before they leave Washington it will be purchased of them by the Indian Department.—Washington Star.

TRAGEDY AT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI.—A very serious tragedy was enacted in Jackson the capital of Mississippi, on the 24th ult. There was some difficulty between Mr. Shackelford and Mr. Plunders, in which Mr. Smith Taylor, as a mediator, stepped, and endeavored to adjust. When Mr. Taylor was unarmed, proposed a mediation. Mr. Shackelford drew a pistol and shot him—some say several times—wounding him severely. At this stage some person fired at Shackelford, the ball entering his breast and killing him instantly.—Taylor has since died.

THE STORM ON THE BLACK SEA.—Among the vessels lost by the late storm on the Black sea, was the Egyptian three-decker "Muplati Djehat." It is stated that she went down with the Admiral, Hassan Pacha, and 700 men.

TELEGRAPHIC.

From New York.

New York, Dec. 20.

Among the sufferers by the burning of Cheshire's Glass Depot, were Wray's fruit store, Coster's vermin exterminator depot, and others, together with the Assembly Rooms, which were leased to George Miller. A fireman named Lowry was killed, but as the fallen walls have not been cleared away, there possibly may be others under them. The loss is variously estimated at \$1,000,000, but by a careful estimate it is believed to exceed \$108,000.

From Canada.

QUEBEC, Dec. 20.

Lord Elgin leaves Canada on Friday for New York, where he will embark for England per the Pacific. Sir E. W. Head was sworn in yesterday. It is stated that the next Gazette will see all the officers who were deprived of rank for joining the annexation movement, restored to their former position.

New Railroad Opening.

NIAGARA FALLS, Dec. 20.

A large number of Philadelphians arrived here this morning, over the new railroad from Philadelphia, and will proceed to Erie this afternoon.

Arrison found Guilty.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 20.

The jury have found Arrison guilty of murder in the first degree. They were out about three hours.

From Pittsburgh.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 20.

The river is still closed, and there is no prospect of navigation opening at present. The weather is cloudy and very cold.